

rhymed, the paper cutters
eloped. Yea, the very air

of your envelope seemed charged
with drama, like an old parking meter
thirsting for change. It only needs
a little work: have you thought

of a different type face:
your stationery stained our pizza;
and those sloppy seals!
Are your diseases communicable?

But, you understand, we are all sensitive
men struggling with the same beauties
and truths, and we could never presume
to waste your time with a reply.

April Sunday
to Dick Martin

Christ escaped again this morning.

To his method
there are no clues but these:
a babbling woman, a sponge
an untorn shroud, a crown
of small red flowers, a transparent
man, the tracks of a boulder.

By his persistence
the authorities are confused,
or indifferent, their pursuit
half-hearted.

Toward his apprehension
there had been the usual round-up
of suspects, though the questioning
has yet to begin. The guard at the gate
have been given his description. Their captain
claims no man, in a halo,
has passed. Alone, the rabbi laughs.

The condemned is supposed to be armed
and some consider him dangerous,
if mad. It is only known with certainty
that his birth was strange,
that he has walked on fishes and bread,
that the nails in his wrist ring
when he laughs, that he thinks

his wine is blood, that he accosts the rich
and tells them to be led by children.

A secret identity is suspected.

You are asked to be alert
for signs, magnetic
splinters and silver
pieces, said to bring luck.

The reward --
not offered, but hinted at.

-- Jim Kobylecky

Eugene OR

The Oregon Trip

1.

on the road between Tahoe
and Redding we lost our
direction and saw 46 deer
three coyotes, two bears and
one sign.

2.

there's a rest stop somewhere
on highway 44 that was full
of people when we stopped
for a drink of water. there
was a hand pump and we heard
them singing
as we left.

3.

highway 80 above Redding is
an erratic road that is
interesting to drive until
you reach the Oregon border
where it widens out.

4.

we did an errand for
a friend and got to meet